

Joint Venture Agreements Between Augusta VA Medical Center (VAMC) & Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center (EAMC)

1. Neurosurgery – All VA/DoD Neurosurgery accomplished at Augusta VA Medical Center utilizing Department of the Army Neurosurgeons and one DoD provided physician assistant. The VA provides the facility support and one VA provided physician assistant. MCG residents in Neurosurgery receive training from the Department of the Army Neurosurgeons.
2. Cardio-thoracic Surgery – All VA/DoD Cardio-thoracic surgery cases are performed at EAMC by Department of the Army Cardio-thoracic surgeons. They are supported by both a PA and NP provided by VAMC. Residents from MCG also participate in the provision of these services. Department of the Army Cardio-thoracic surgeons staff clinics at the VAMC and also perform General Thoracic surgery cases at the VAMC on VA beneficiaries.
3. Sleep Lab Studies – EAMC provides Sleep Lab Technologist to assist in workload and to accomplish all VA/DoD sleep lab studies at the August VA Medical Center. The VA supplies a lead tech, the facility and the professional interpretation of the studies. (Being renegotiated to provide combined program staffed by VAMC and EAMC employees at VAMC. Would provide services to all VA and DoD beneficiaries).
4. Imaging Services – Augusta VAMC and EAMC have provided back-up support to each other on numerous occasions for Imaging Services such as CT Scans, MRIs, and Special Invasive Radiological procedures.
5. Gynecology/Obstetrical Services – Department of the Army gynecologists staff a clinic at the VA Medical Center to provide these services to women veterans. The VA provides a nurse practitioner and the facility support. Obstetrical services, which are available to women veterans under new eligibility guidelines, are provided through EAMC's contract with the Medical College of Georgia. Eligible pregnant veterans are enrolled in the obstetric clinic at EAMC. Delivery is accomplished at MCG. VAMC reimburses EAMC for the costs incurred through the contract at MCG.
6. Separation Physical Examinations – Recently approved an agreement to provide “one-stop” VA compensation/ DoD separation examinations to separating Ft. Gordon personnel utilizing both VAMC and Department of the Army resources. Augusta VAMC will provide a Physician's Assistant and clerk to support EAMC personnel in accomplishing these examinations. Eisenhower provides the facility and the professional supervision of an Army physician.
7. Speech Pathology Support – VAMC Speech Pathologist has a clinic for such services at EAMC for DoD beneficiaries.
8. Laboratory Services – Both facilities share resources as necessary. Specifically, Special studies, dermatopathology and PAP smear interpretation is provided by Eisenhower.
9. Physical and Occupational Therapy – VAMC provides such services as necessary to DoD beneficiaries.
10. Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy – EAMC provides these services to VA beneficiaries at EAMC.
11. ICU Beds – Reciprocal agreement for beds at either facility dependent upon bed availability and need.
12. Mammography – EAMC provides equipment for mammography services at EAMC. VAMC radiologist reads the VA films and provides second readings on films for EAMC beneficiaries.

13. Lab Space for Animals – VAMC provides lab space for animals used for EAMC research activities.
14. Echocardiogram Readings – EAMC cardiologists read up to 20 Echos per week during period of cardiology staffing shortage at VAMC.
15. Temporary Lodging for EAMC Substance Abuse Program (ESAP) participants – Augusta VAMC provides temporary lodging for ESAP participants in exchange for access to PET scan services provided by a private provider at EAMC. EAMC provides the reading and interpretation of the scans.

We are continually seeking opportunities to joint venture in areas of mutual benefit to both agencies. This allows the provision of services to both VA and DoD beneficiaries in a cost efficient manner.

Affiliation with Medical College of Georgia (MCG) – Augusta VAMC provides educational and training opportunities for residents and students of the Medical College of Georgia. The VA Medical Center currently provides paid slots for 72 residents from MCG. The amount of money the VA Medical Center reimburses MCG on an annual basis for the service of these residents is approximately \$3 million. The VA Medical Center provides training opportunities in the following medical and surgical specialties:

- Internal Medicine
- Anesthesia
- Cardiology
- Dermatology
- Endocrinology
- Family Practice
- Gastroenterology
- Hematology/Oncology
- Infectious Disease
- Nephrology
- Neurosurgery
- Neurology
- Radiology
- General Surgery
- Plastic Surgery
- Psychiatry
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedics
- Ear, Nose & Throat
- Pathology
- Pulmonology
- Cardio-thoracic Surgery
- Urology
- Dental – Oral Surgery
- Dental – Periodontics

In addition, the VA Medical Center provides residencies in Podiatry, in which VA Podiatry residents rotate through MCG, and MCG's clinical psychology program for Ph.D. psychologists.